

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 L-03 DOTE-00 COME-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 DRC-01 /059 W

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R 081436Z APRN74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3333

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 1784

PASS MARAD AND ICC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, NL

SUBJECT: ELIGIBILITY OF DUTCH GRAINLOADER FOR USE  
IN US WATERS

1. DUTCH FIRM GRAAN ELEVATOR MIJ (GEM) BV OF ROTTERDAM HAS SOUGHT OUR ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING ASAP RULING FROM COMPETENT US AUTHORITIES ON ELIGIBILITY UNDER US LAW FOR FLOATING GRAIN TRANSLOADING EQUIPMENT, LARGELY OF DUTCH MANUFACTURE, TO BE USED BY US SHIPPING COMPANY IN US WATERS.

2. GEM HAS FORMED 50-50 JOINT VENTURE WITH CENTRAL GULF LINES TO TRANSLOAD BULK GRAINS IN NEW ORLEANS HARBOR FROM RIVER BARGES TO OCEAN-GOING VESSELS. EQUIPMENT TO BE USED WOULD BE REGISTERED IN US AND WOULD CONSIST OF TWIN-HULLED TRANSLOADER IN 1200-1800 TON RANGE WITH MAIN COMPONENTS BUILT IN NETHERLANDS BUT WITH ASSEMBLY AT FOWLER SHIPYARD IN NEW ORLEANS. US COST WOULD BE ROUGHLY 25 PERCENT OF TOTAL \$1.2 MILLION. CRAFT IS NON-SELF-PROPELLED AND WOULD NOT CARRY CARGO AS BOTH BARGE AND SHIP WOULD BE ALONGSIDE SIMULTANEOUSLY. ENTIRE UNIT COULD BE CONSTRUCTED IN US BUT (ACCORDING TO GEM) ONLY AT ADDITIONAL COST OF \$100,000 BECAUSE OF HIGHER US STEEL PRICES. DELIVERY TIME FROM US YARD ALSO ALLEGED TO BE MUCH LONGER. DUTCH YARD IS PREPARED TO CONSTRUCT VESSEL IMMEDIATELY FROM EX-INVENTORY STEEL WITH MINIMUM DELAY.

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3. OUR READING OF 46 USC 883 SUGGESTS THAT STEVEDORING EQUIPMENT OF THIS KIND OWNED AND/OR OPERATED BY TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (AS IN THIS CASE) MIGHT BE EXEMPT FROM GENERAL RESTRICTIONS OF US LAW, PERHAPS UNDER PL92-163 OF 1971.

4. GEM REQUESTS AUTHORITATIVE RULING ON URGENT BASIS SO THAT CONTRACTS CAN BE SIGNED HERE BEFORE FURTHER RISE IN RAW MATERIAL COSTS.  
GOULD

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CARGO HANDLING, GRAINS, LAW, MATERIALS HANDLING EQUIPMENT, TRANSPORTATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 APR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974THEHA01784  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
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**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** smithrj  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 MAY 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <24 MAY 2002 by bryansd0>; APPROVED <17 DEC 2002 by smithrj>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971027  
**Subject:** ELIGIBILITY OF DUTCH GRAINLOADER FOR USE IN US WATERS  
**TAGS:** ETRN, NL, US, ETRN, GRAAN ELEVATOR MIJ  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005